

The Greater St. Louis Federal Executive Board met on October 11, 2006 at the Westin Hotel. The meeting included the annual recognition of outgoing officers, Executive Council members, and Committee Chairs. Peggy O'Dell, Superintendent of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, National Park Service was honored for her service as Chair of the 2006 Executive Forum. Colonel (ret) Debra Cook offered remarks on her years on the Board and her final assignment as Chair. She gave special thanks to Susanne Valdez, Executive Director, and Lynn Schulte, Board Administrative Assistant, for their support, and presented each with a gift. Colonel Cook then received a letter of commendation from the US Office of Personnel Management for her outstanding service and a gift from the Federal Executive Board.







Following those recognition, Colonel Cook passed the gavel to Keith Bentley, the incoming Chair. Mr. Bentley is the Director, Program Analysis and Financial Management at the US Transportation Command, headquartered at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois. He introduced his leadership team: First Vice Chair, Captain George Stephanos, US Coast Guard, Second Vice Chair, Peggy O'Dell, Chair Special Emphasis Council, and Jerry Pittman, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency. The directory of the 2006-7 Leadership Team is shown on the web site.



Les Sterman, the Director for the East West Council of Governments, briefed the Board on the ongoing debate regarding the construction of a new bridge spanning the Mississippi River. The federal community represented by the Federal Executive Board covers the southwestern area of Illinois and the eastern area of Missouri. Many federal employees live in one state and work in the other. As a result, the traffic flow across the Mississippi River is a daily concern, and a critical concern for COOP planners.



